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## **VIA ECF & FACSIMILE (212-805-7986)**

May 4, 2018

The Honorable Paul G. Gardephe, U.S.D.J. United States District Court Southern District of New York Thurgood Marshall United States Courthouse 40 Foley Square, Courtroom 705 New York, NY 10007

Re: Request to Appear by Telephone for Initial Conference

Alfredo Cruz Sanchez, et al. v. Rainbow Umbrella, et al.

Case No.: 17 Civ. 9065 (PGG)

Dear Justice Gardephe:

As you know, we recently were substituted in as counsel for Defendant Peter Schatzberg in the above-referenced action. We write to request that the Court allow our office to appear for the initial conference by telephone.

On May 17, 2018, there is an initial conference scheduled in this matter before Your Honor. We request that this Court allow us to appear for the initial conference via telephone. Our law firm's headquarters, where my office is located, is in Buffalo, New York, which is approximately 400 miles away from Chambers. It would be a great financial burden on our client for us to have to personally appear at this juncture, and we can zealously represent his interests through our presence on the telephone.

All counsel have consented to this request. Please feel free contact us if you have any questions or instructions in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,

LIPPES MATHIAS WEXLER FRIEDMAN LLP

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By:

Vincent M. Miranda

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cc: Joseph D. Lockinger, Esq. Colin James Mulholland, Esq.